

5 April 1984

USSR/U.S./  
ARMS CONTROL

RATHER: The Soviet Union was quick to condemn today, calling President Reagan's proposed worldwide ban on chemical weapons, quote, 'a propaganda trick.' Moscow said that the proposal is nothing more than a White House effort cover up and justify its program for an accelerated buildup in its arsenal of chemical weapons. The Soviets, it appears, have quite an arsenal of their own. U.S. intelligence sources tell Pentagon correspondent David Martin that there are at least seven biological warfare centers in the Soviet Union, six more than had been publicly known.